

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 LOUREN 00887 211912Z

61

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EB-03 COME-00 AID-10 NSC-10

NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /054 W

----- 072031

R 211320Z DEC 73

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2275

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 0887

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ERNY, BMEP, BEXP, MZ

SUBJECT: CABORA BASSA HYDROELECTRIC SCHEME

REF: (A) LOURENCO MARQUES 673; (B) STATE 196866;

(C) LUANDA A-71; (D) LOURENCO MARQUES 754;

(E) STATE 215072

1. SINCE RECEIVING REFTELS (B) AND (E), WE HAVE BEEN TRYING
PIN DOWN MORE PRECISE INFORMATION ON CONSTRUCTION PLANS
FOR NORTH BANK INSTALLATIONS AT CABORA BASSA.

2. DETAILED INFORMATION VIRTUALLY UNAVAILABLE IN LOURENCO
MARQUES. WE TRIED IN VAIN TO SEE ENG. CASTRO FONTES, DIRECTOR
OF "GABINETE DO PLANO DO ZAMBEZE" AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
FALCAO E CUNHA DURING THEIR RECENT VISITS HERE. THUS,
PENDING OUR NEXT TRIP TO CABORA BASSA, BELIEVE DETAILS WILL
BE MORE EASILY OBTAINABLE DIRECT FROM GABINETE HEADQUARTERS
IN LISBON.

3. WE GATHER FROM VARIOUS SOURCES THAT PREPARATORY CON-
STRUCTION OF ACCESS ROADS, EXCAVATION OF WATER INTAKE HOLES
AND GEO-TECHNICAL TESTING HAVE ALREADY STARTED ON NORTH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LOUREN 00887 211912Z

BANK BUT PLANS FOR EQUIPMENT STILL UNDER STUDY AND TENDERS
FOR BIDDING PROBABLY AT LEAST TWO YEARS OFF. REPORTEDLY

MONEY IS THE MAIN PROBLEM AND WORK PROGRESS WILL DEPEND ON SUCH FACTORS AS INCOME REALIZED WHEN SOUTH BANK INSTALLATIONS COMMENCE OPERATIONS, AVAILABILITY NEW MARKETS FOR ADDITIONAL POWER TO BE GENERATED BY NORTH BANK INSTALLATIONS, EVENTUAL COST, FINANCING POSSIBILITIES, AND SO ON.

4. PROVINCIAL SECRETARY FOR ECONOMY SUGGEST IF AMERICAN FIRMS INTERESTED IN SELLING EQUIPMENT, THEY SHOULD APPROACH GABINETE DIRECT IN LISBON. PROVINCIAL SECRETARY SAID PORTUGUESE EXPECT SPEND AT LEAST 4 MILLION CONTOS (ABOUT 160 MILLION US DOLLARS) ON NORTH BANK INSTALLATIONS AS COMPARED TO SOME 12 MILLION CONTOS (ABOUT 480 MILLION US DOLLARS) ON DAM AND SOUTH BANK INSTALLATIONS. HE POINTED OUT THAT OVER-ALL ZAMBEZI VALLEY DEVELOPMENT SCHEME WILL BE GOING ON FOR GENERATIONS WITH ABOUT DOZEN ADDITIONAL DAMS CONTEMPLATED AT VARIOUS POINTS DOWN STREAM FROM CABORA BASSA AND ON TRIBUTARY RIVERS.

4. IN MEANTIME, DESPITE INDICATIONS OF DISSATISFACTION WITH ZAMCO'S PERFORMANCE REPORTED LUANDA A-71, WE BELIEVE PORTUGUESE ARE GENERALLY PLEASED THAT CONSTRUCTION OF DAM, UNDERGROUND INSTALLATIONS, ARE CONTINUING PRETTY MUCH ON SCHEDULE DESPITE ATTEMPTED DISRUPTIONS OF SUPPLY ROUTES BY FRELIMO GUERRILLA ACTION, AND THAT COMPLETION OF POWER LINES ON DECEMBER 12 WAS SIX MONTHS AHEAD OF TIME. THUS, WE BELIEVE IT MOST UNLIKELY PORTUGUESE WOULD SWITCH AWAY FROM ZAMCO AT THIS STAGE, PARTICULARLY IF THEY SWING RIGHT INTO SECOND PHASE CONSTRUCTION ON NORTH BANK. IF THERE SHOULD BE SIGNIFICANT INTERVAL BETWEEN COMPLETION OF DAM AND SOUTH BANK INSTALLATIONS, AND START OF MAIN WORK ON NORTH BANK, OPPORTUNITIES FOR AMERICAN PARTICIPATION MIGHT BE BRIGHTER THAN THEY NOW SEEM.

VAN OSS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTRUCTION, FINANCE, HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LOUREN00887
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LOURENCO MARQUES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731211/aaaaahqa.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: (A) LOURENCO MARQUES 673; (B) STATE, 196866;
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Sep-2001 by rowellE0>; APPROVED <29-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CABORA BASSA HYDROELECTRIC SCHEME
TAGS: ENRG, BEXP, MZ, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005